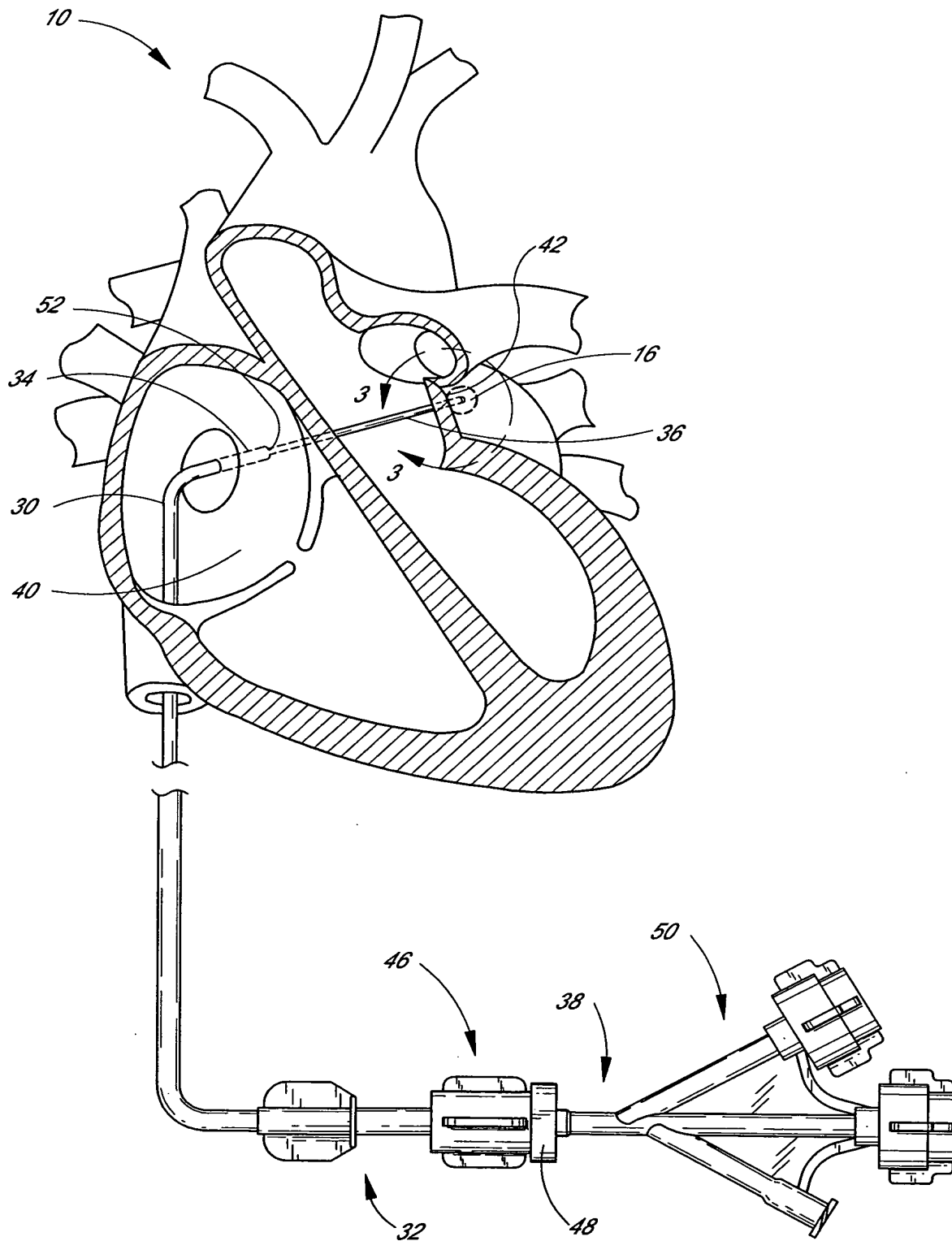


FIG. 1



*FIG. 2*

FIG. 3A

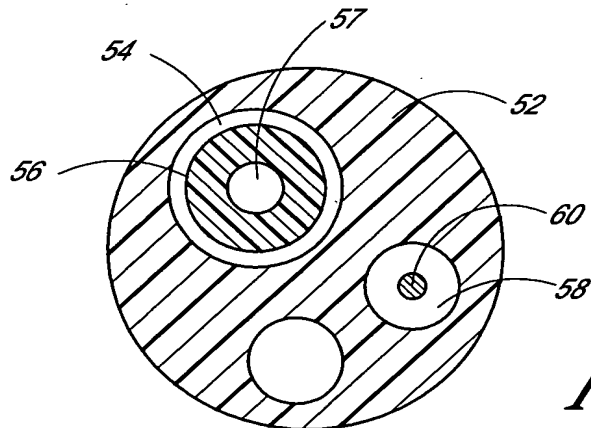
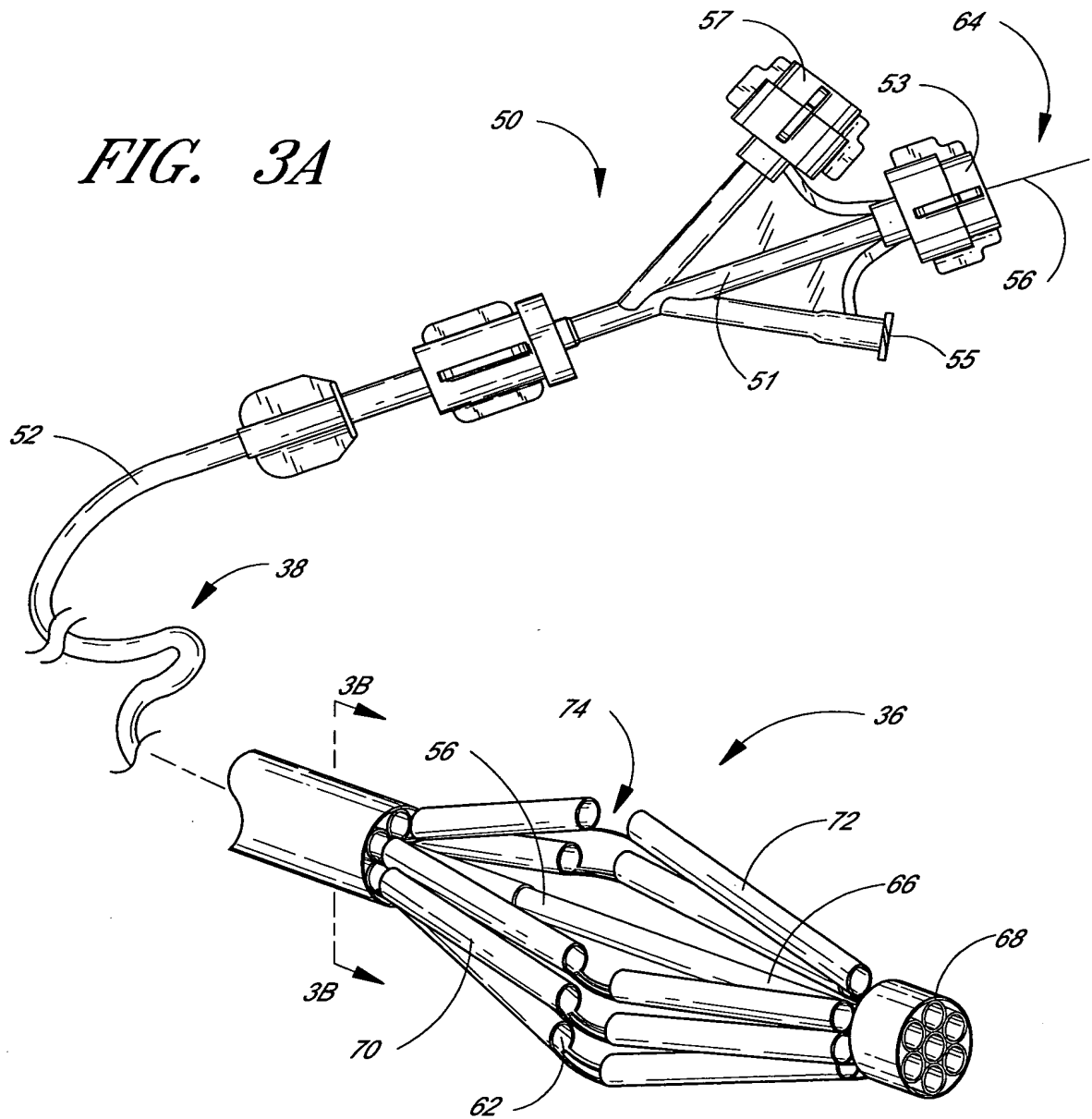
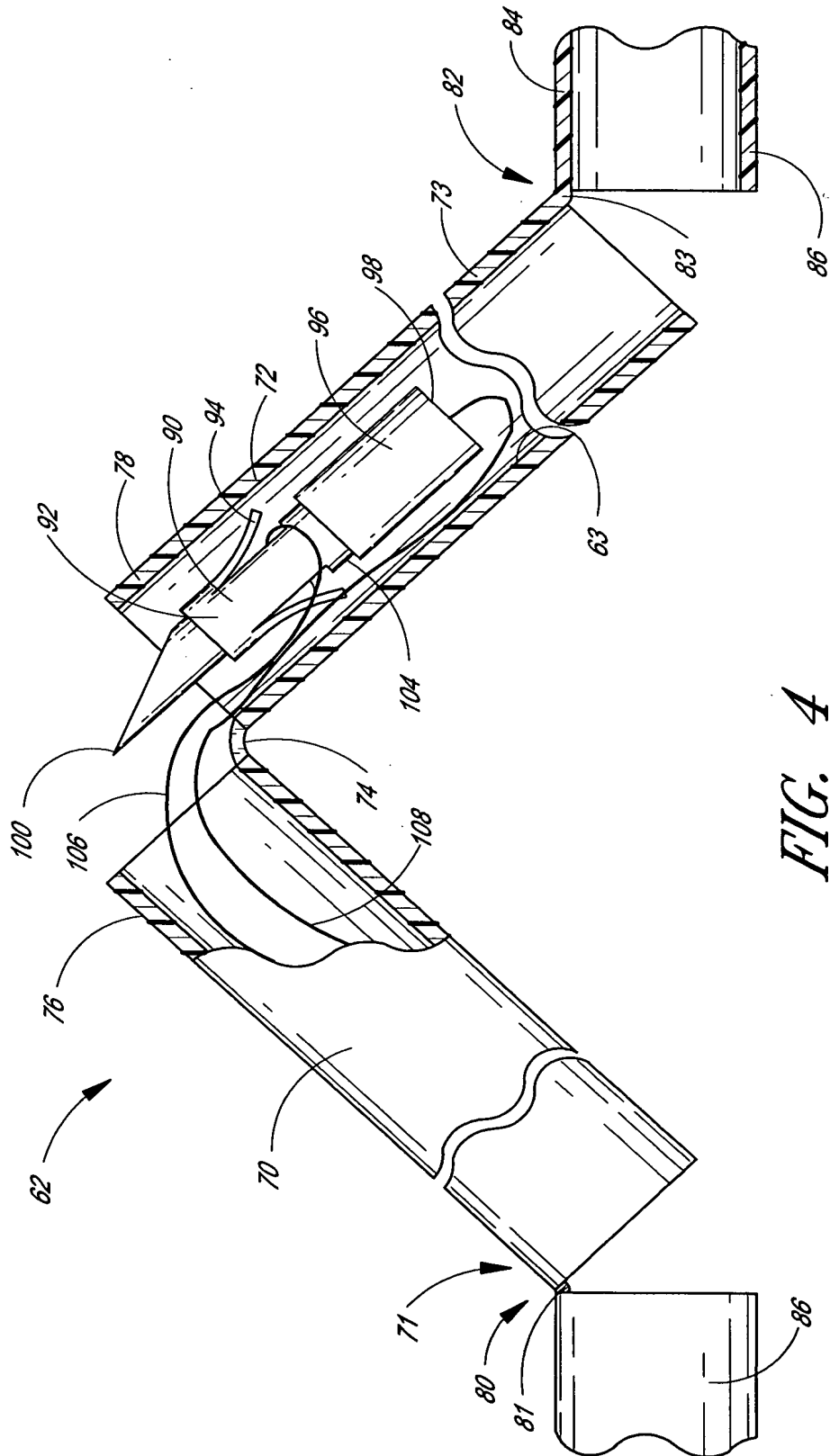


FIG. 3B



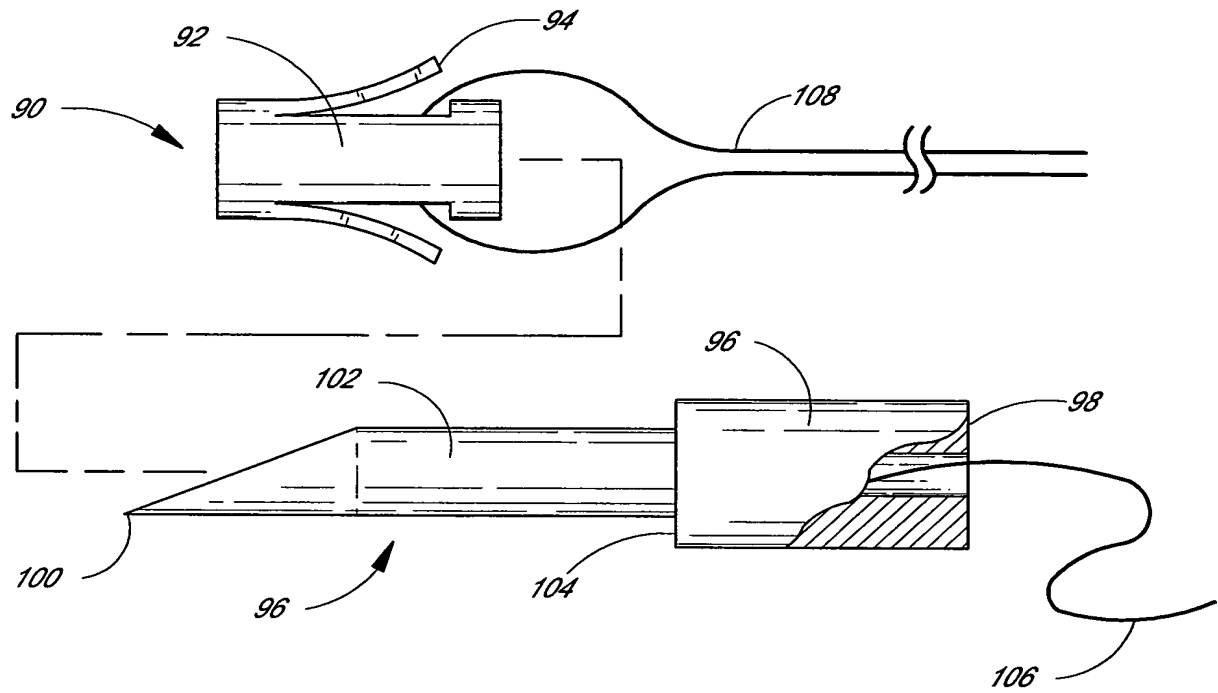
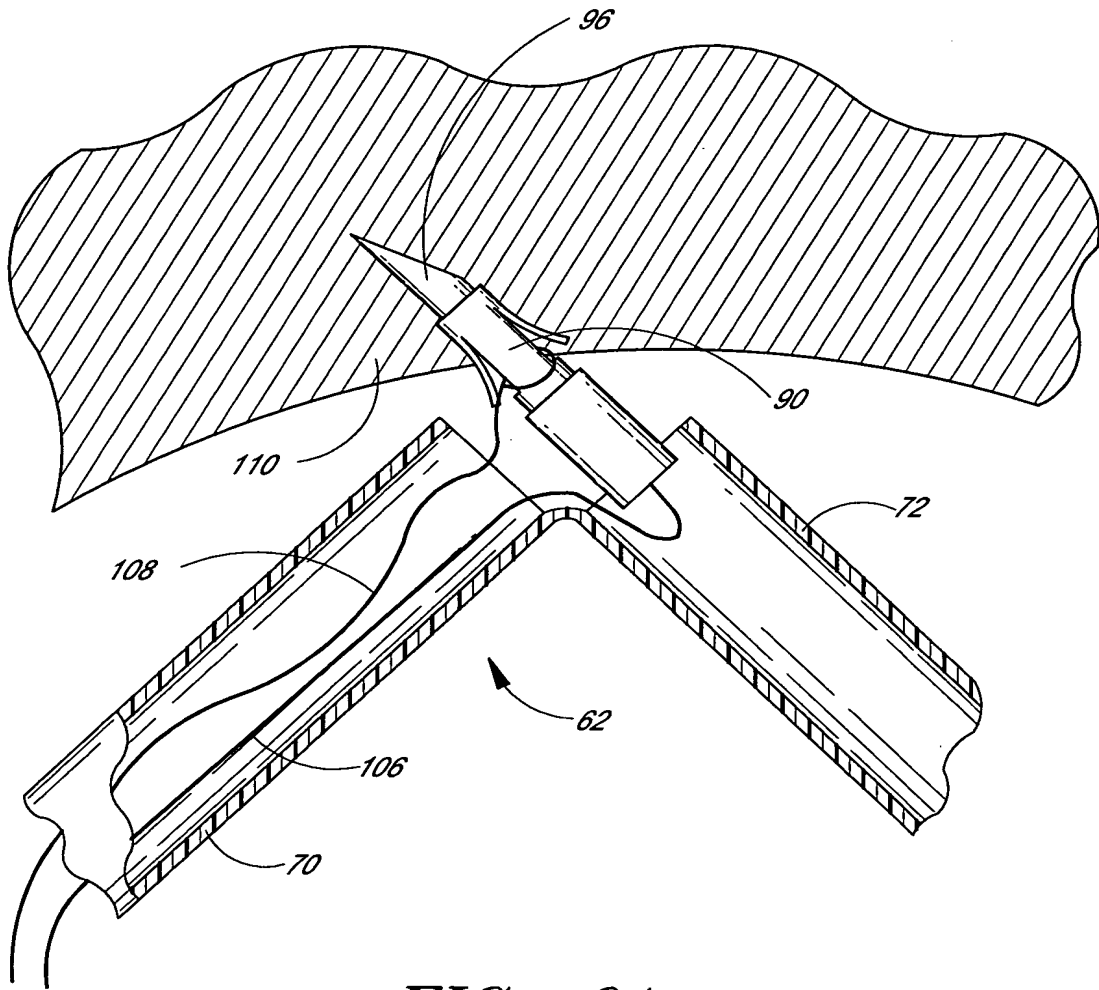
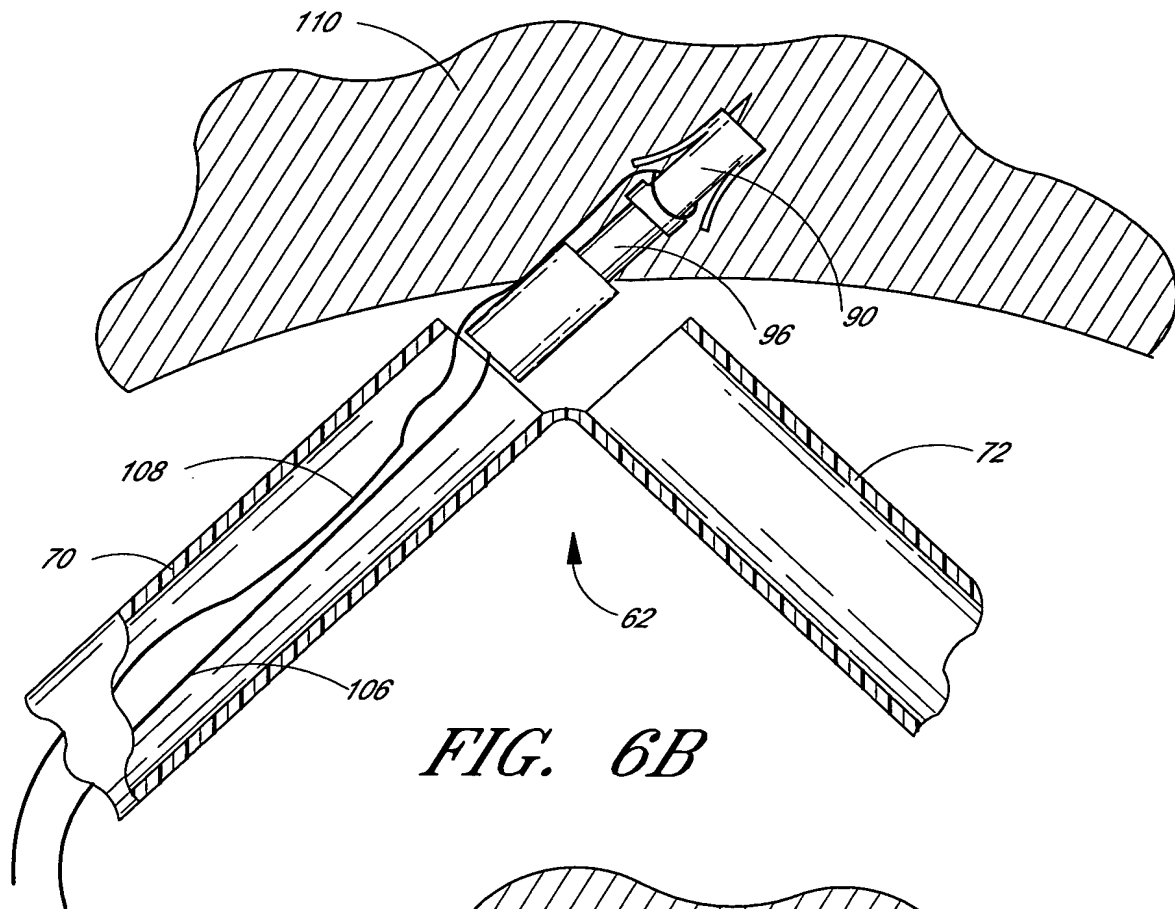


FIG. 5

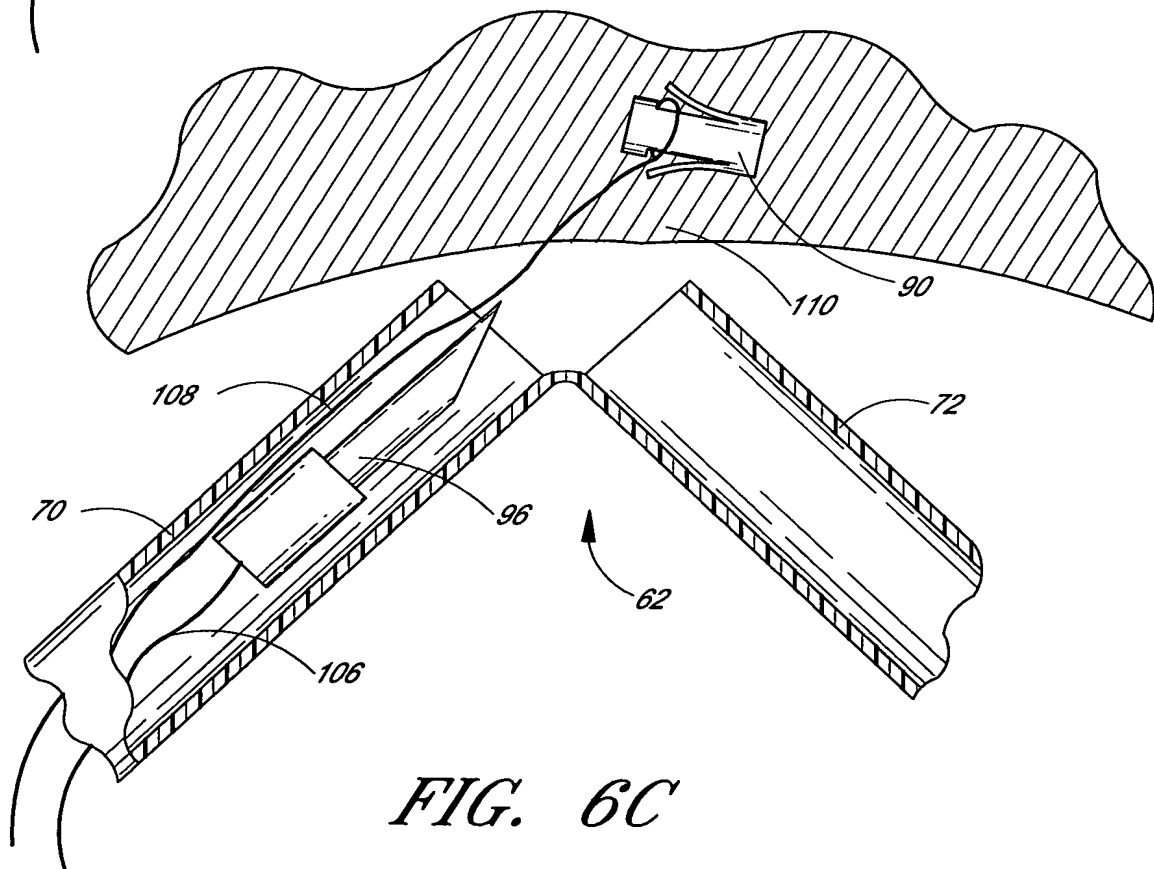
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*FIG. 6B*



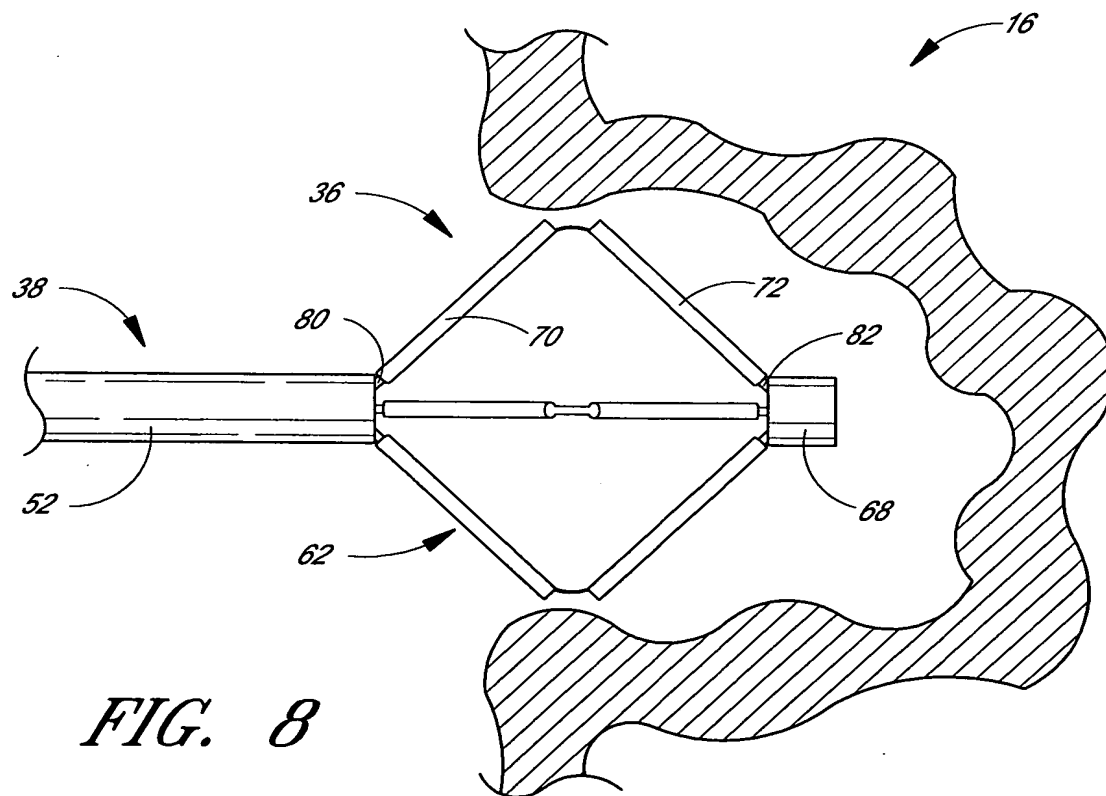
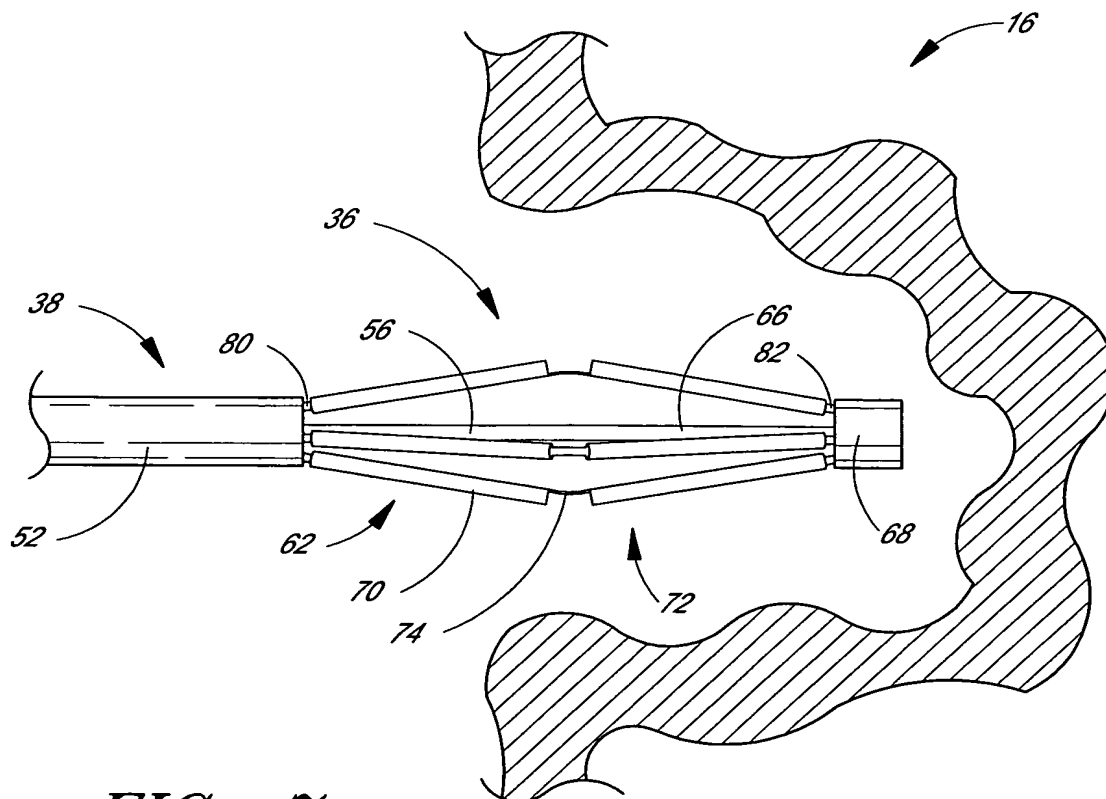
*FIG. 6C*

METHOD OF CLOSING AN OPENING IN A WALL OF THE HEART

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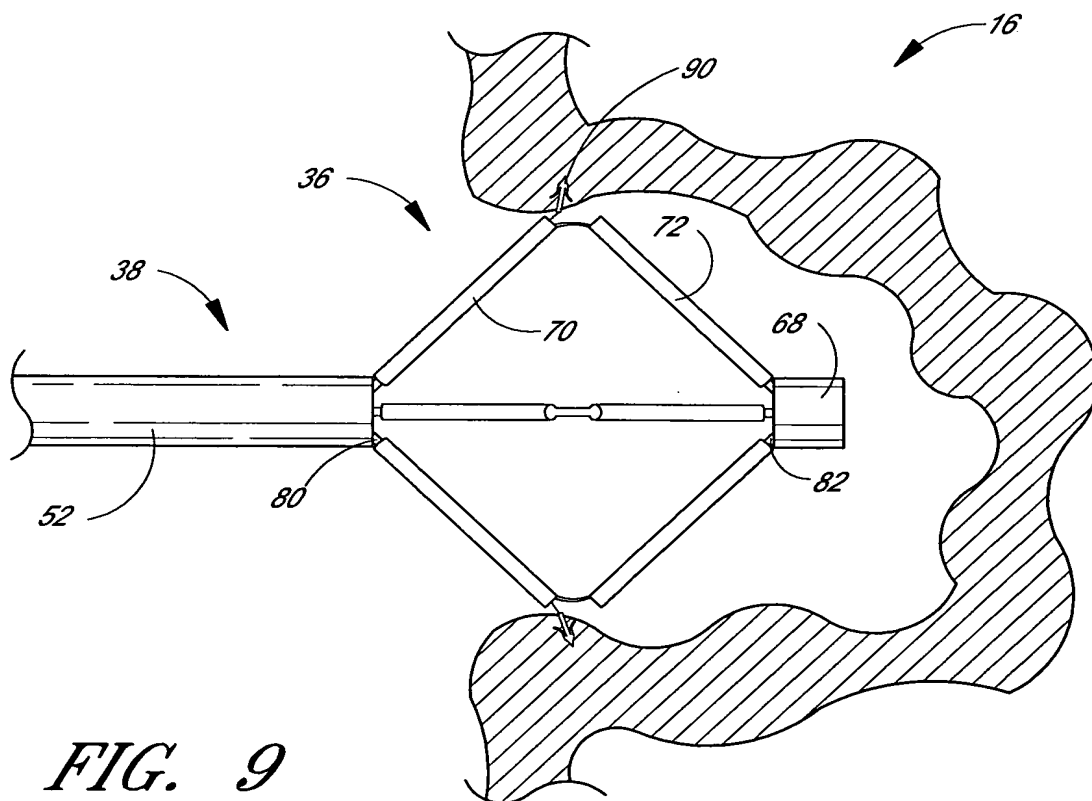


FIG. 9

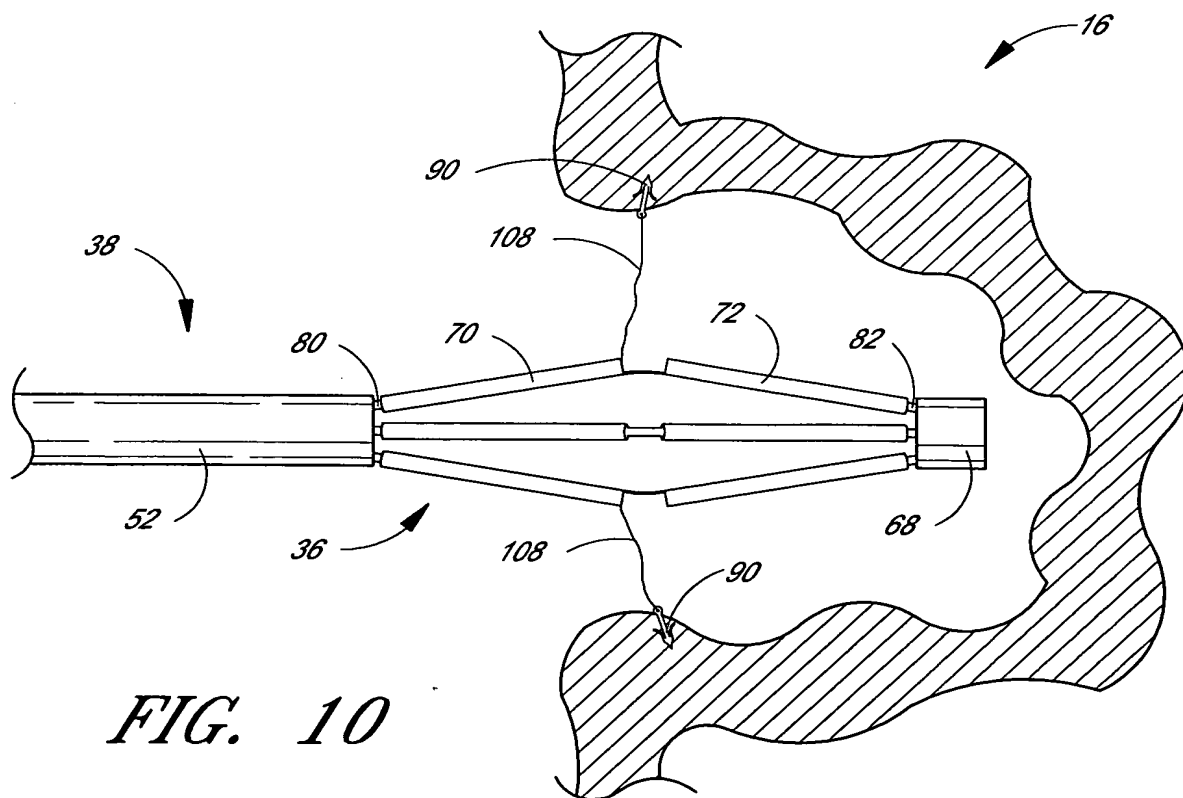
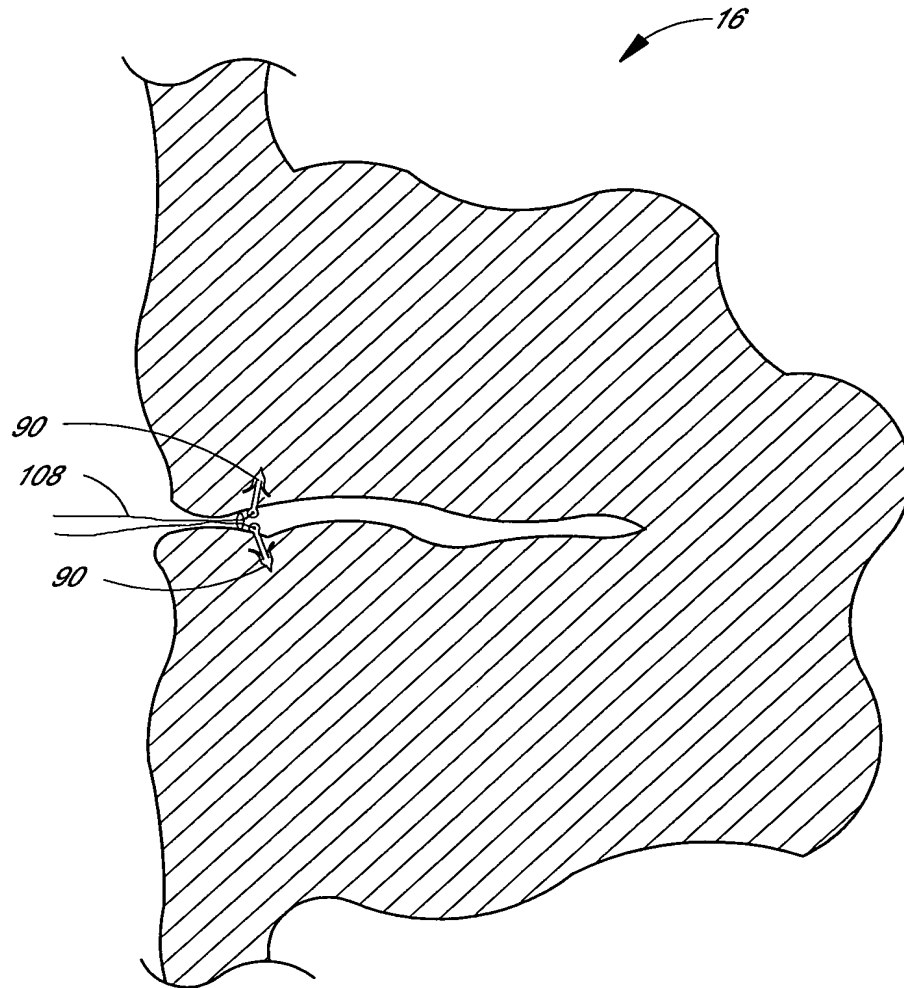


FIG. 10

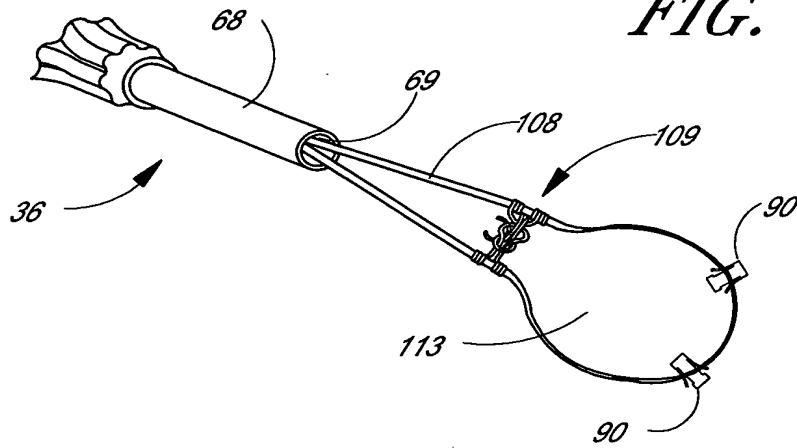
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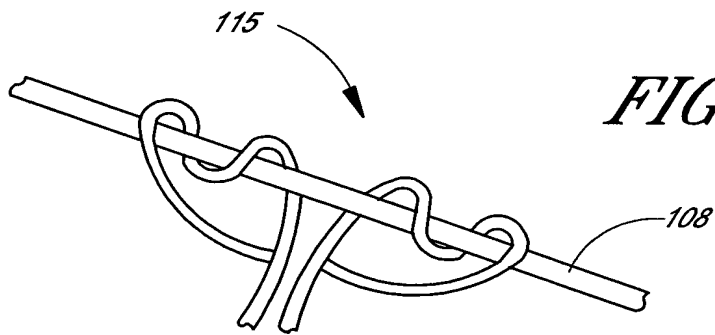
*FIG. 11*

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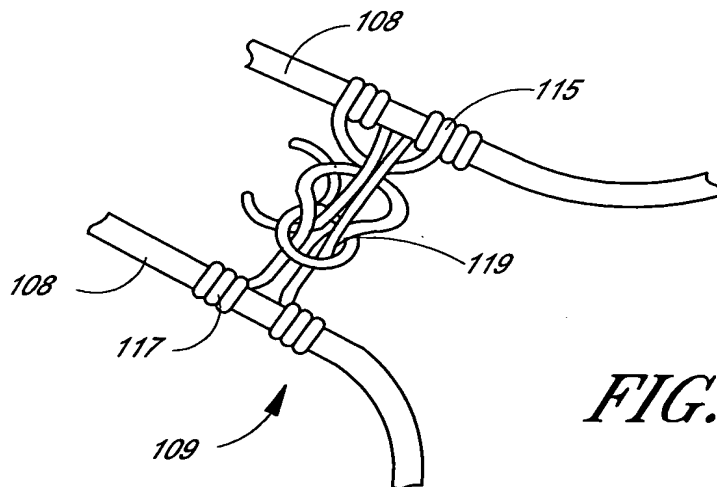
*FIG. 11A*



*FIG. 11B*



*FIG. 11C*



*FIG. 12*

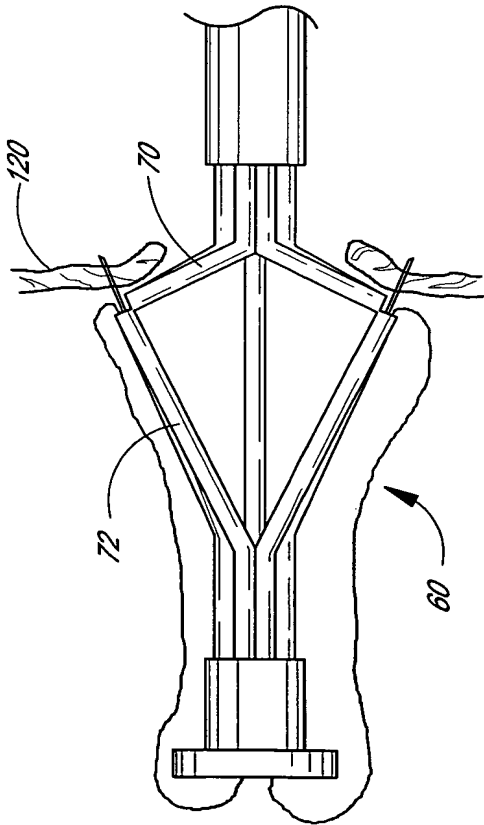


FIG. 13

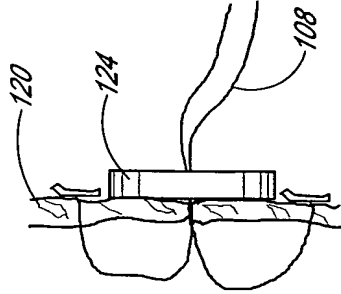


FIG. 15

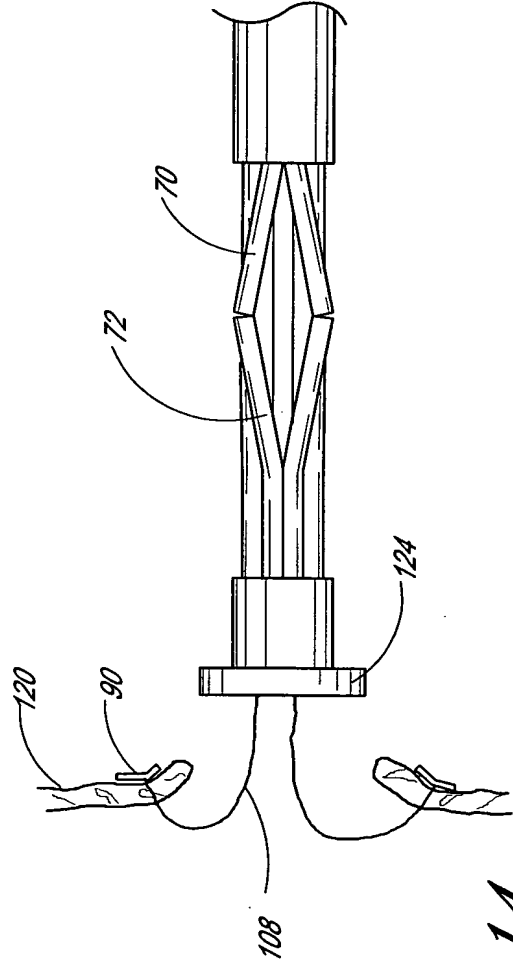


FIG. 14

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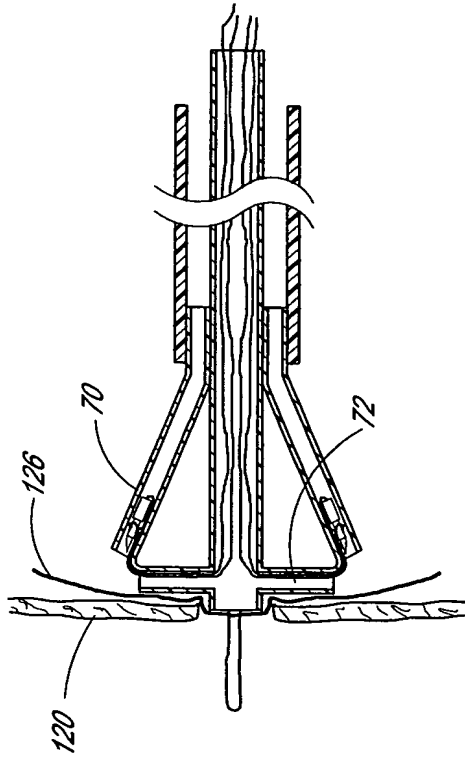
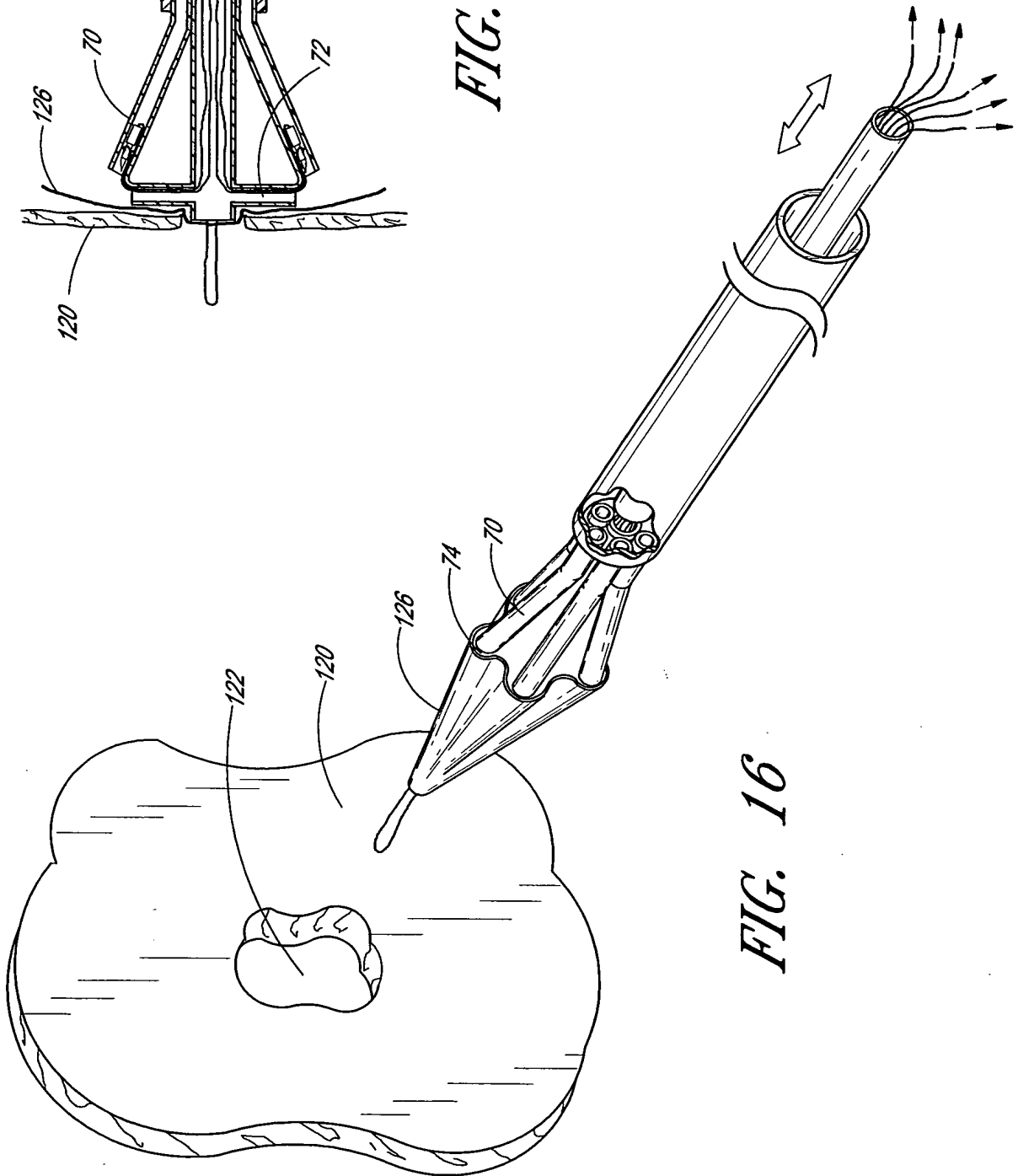
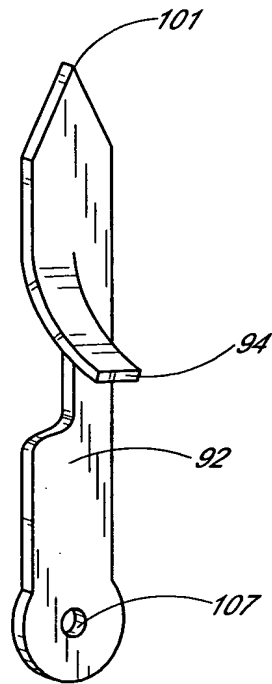


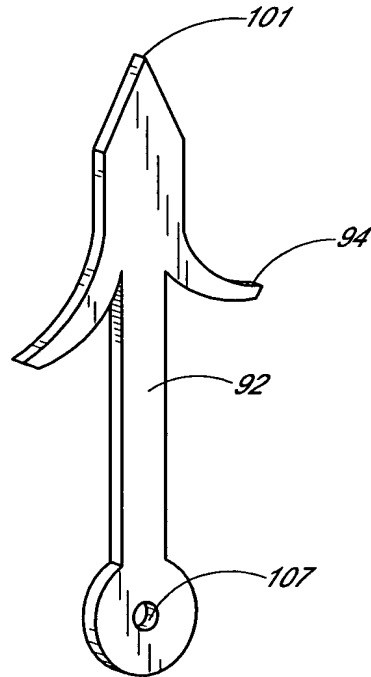
FIG. 17



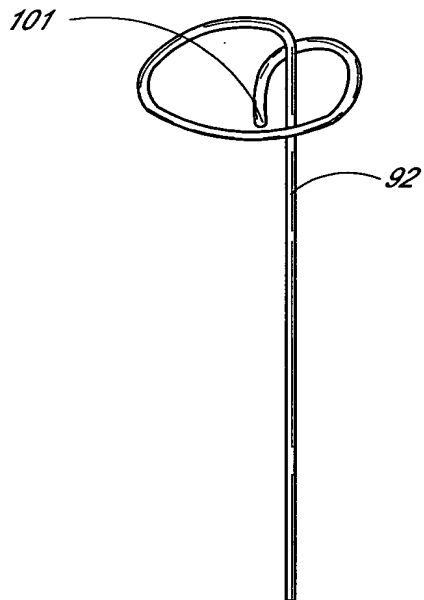
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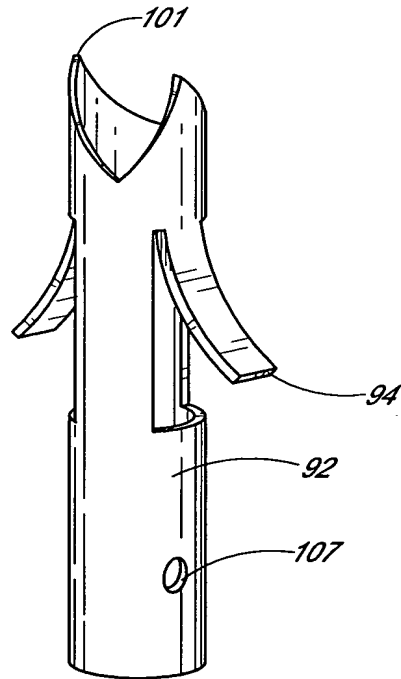
*FIG. 18A*



*FIG. 18B*



*FIG. 18C*



*FIG. 18D*

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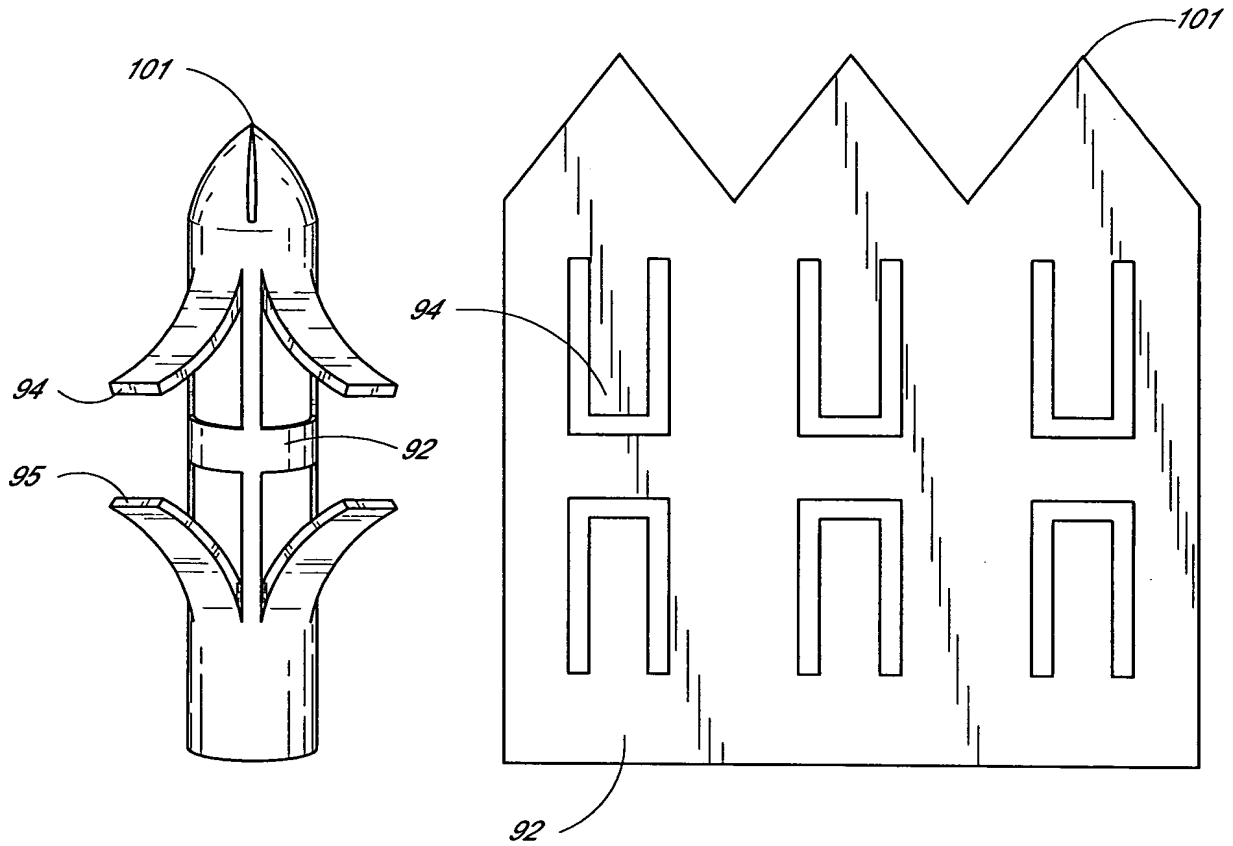


FIG. 18E

FIG. 18F

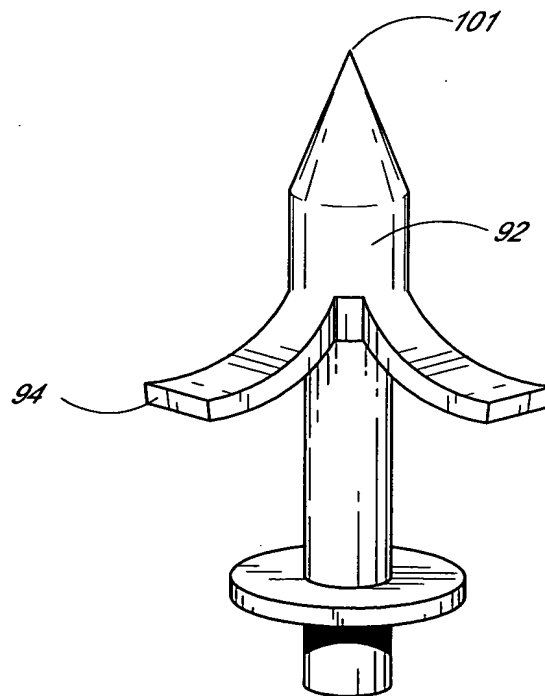


FIG. 18G